

REMARKS

Status of Claims:

Claims 6-7, 12-13 and 18-19 have been canceled. Claims 1-5, 8-11 and 14-17 remain for examination.

Prior Art Rejection:

Claims 1-3 and 6-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kashiwamura.

The examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicant's amended claim 1 recites:

1. (Currently amended) A power consumption control method applied to a communication system including a reproduction apparatus capable of reproducing audio and/or video content data and an output apparatus capable of outputting data-sound and/or images based on the reproduced audio and/or video content data, the method comprising:

transmitting the audio and/or video content data reproduced by the reproducing apparatus to the output apparatus through a radio communication interface in an ordinary operation mode; and

transitioning at least one of the reproducing apparatus and the output apparatus from said ordinary operation mode to a low-power consumption operation mode in which power consumption relating to radio communication between the reproducing apparatus and the output apparatus is reduced by a command through the radio communication interface, when a data reproduction stop request is made in ~~another one or~~ another of the reproducing apparatus and the output apparatus,

the low-power consumption operation mode including a first mode in which connection of the radio communication is maintained and a second mode in which the connection is cut off.

As indicated by the underlined portions above, applicant's claim 1 recites that at least one of the reproducing apparatus and the output apparatus is transitioned from said ordinary operation mode to a low-power consumption operation mode in which power consumption relating to radio communication between the reproducing apparatus and the output apparatus is reduced by a command through the radio communication interface when a data reproduction stop request is made in one or another of the reproducing apparatus and the output apparatus. It should be noted that the low-power consumption operation mode includes a first mode in which connection of the radio communication is maintained and a second mode in which the connection is cut off.

With the above structure, it is possible to reduce power consumption while maintaining good usability for a user. In particular, it is possible to selectively use one of two types of modes, as needed. For example, a user may selectively use the first mode, prioritizing a quick resuming of the data reproducing state, in the case where the user wishes to quickly resume a data reproducing state after the data reproduction is stopped, while realizing the low-power consumption, and the user may selectively use the second mode, prioritizing the lowering of power consumption, in the case where the user does not need the quick resuming of the data reproducing state.

The above features of the claimed invention are not taught or suggested by Kashiwamura.

Kashiwamura discloses the "stand-by mode" and "unused condition" (Kashiwamura paragraph [0037]). However, the "stand-by mode" and "unused condition" are applied to the "adapter unit 2", and are not applied to the headset 3 and the cellular phone 9 (Kashiwamura Fig. 2). It should be noted that, the "unused condition" of the adapter unit 2 (where the adapter unit 2 is removed from the cellular phone 9) is not the same as the low-power consumption operation mode of the headset 3 or the cellular phone 9. Kashiwamura clearly teaches that there is no stand-by mode in the headset 3 (Kashiwamura paragraph [0058]). Accordingly, Kashiwamura fails to disclose the first mode and second mode both included in the low-power consumption operation mode as recited in the claim 1 as indicated above.

Moreover, applicant has amended the remaining independent claims 9 and 14 to recite therein the first and second modes as well. As such it is thus submitted that the PTO has not established a case of anticipation under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 102. In order for a reference to be utilized as an anticipatory reference under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 102, the reference must disclose each and every claim limitation. This is certainly not the case here, and thus the Sec. 102 rejection must be withdrawn.

Furthermore, according to Kashiwamura (paragraph [0050]), the adapter unit 2 periodically checks to see if there is a radio frequency from the headset 3 and makes the switch off-condition to stop electric power supply to the transceiver circuit of the adapter unit 2 if there is no radio frequency from the headset 3. Accordingly, there may be problems in which i) the adapter unit 2 always monitors the communication status and ii) an operation mode may be unexpectedly changed to the low-power mode if the communication status becomes worse. In contrast, the claimed invention does not have such problems.

Conclusions:

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

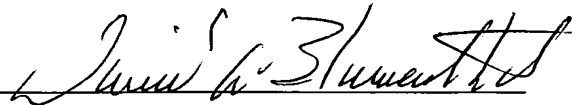
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-0872.

If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0872.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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